

I CLAIM: --.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Claims 1-6 (cancelled)

7. (new) A lowering device of a support structure, the device comprising:

a plate having an opening, a first vertically extending elongated hole, a second vertically extending elongated hole, and a lower projection;

a first bolt having a first end penetrating through said first elongated hole and a second end mounted to the support structure;

a second bolt having a first end penetrating through said second elongated hole and a second end mounted to the support structure;

a first latch part disposed at said plate to partially surround said first end of said first bolt; and

a second latch part disposed at said plate to partially surround said first end of said second bolt, wherein said first and said second latch parts cooperate to form a locking mechanism which urges the support structure into a first elevated position and, in response to a force of gravity, moves the support structure into a second, lowered position, said first and said second bolts being raised within said first and said second elongated slots in said first

position and being lowered within said first and said second elongated slots in said second position.

8. (new) The lowering device of claim 7, wherein said second latch part is rotatably disposed about said second bolt and comprises a first support surface on which said second latch part is supported on said projection of said plate in said first position as well as a second support surface on which said second latch part is supported on said lower projection of said plate in said second position, wherein said first and said second support surfaces have different separations from an axis of said second bolt.
9. (new) The lowering device of claim 8, wherein said first latch part comprises a free end which partially covers said opening of said plate and which extends about said first bolt in such a manner that, upon pivoting said first latch part away from said opening, said second latch part automatically pivots into said second position under the action of gravitational force exerted by the support structure on said locking mechanism.
10. (new) The lowering device of claim 7, further comprising an elongated housing, wherein said plate is mounted to a first end of said elongated housing, a second end of said elongated housing comprising a bracket having an elongated hole for receiving a third bolt mounted to the support structure, said housing also comprising a frame which is rigidly connected to both said bracket and said plate.

11. (new) The lowering device of claim 10, further comprising receptacles disposed on said housing for fixing said housing to the support structure.
12. (new) The lowering device of claim 10, wherein said housing is structured and dimensioned for mounting to a side of a floor table truss girder.